

5/3/21 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Chair Carlo Alfano called meeting to order 6:00 PM
2. April minutes approved
3. Carlo introduced a guest, Brian Sandusky, newest City Council Committee Member
4. Carlo met with Mayor Brown, John Dayton, and Vaughn Ripley regarding the Skate Park
 - a. We have 4 more years committed to the skatepark through the current grant, so good news is we have to keep it for at least 4 years
 - b. The building currently sitting there is scheduled to be bulldozed and removed, the spot that it's sitting on will now be usable land for the skate park
 - i. Question about what that area will be used for
 - c. The two vert ramps will be removed as they are unused and unsafe
 - d. City is not looking to invest a lot of money on the skate park right now
 - i. Question that came up later: Why is there not being money invested in the skate park when it is part of the Sports Plex?
 1. Per Vaughn and John:
 - a. The Sports Plex budget is already over budget and the work going on around it isn't going to affect the skate park around it. After the Sports Plex is finalized, then we can look at the Skate Park.
 - b. If there is money that comes along in the interim, such as a Tony Hawk Foundation Grant, then there is definitely a possibility it would be looked at
 - c. John explained that the budget plan is a fluid document, and if some funds came free from underspending elsewhere, if we have shovel ready projects ready to go, and enough lobbying and support, we could potentially get some things done
 - ii. After the meeting, it was left that Carlo would go out and try to come up with some quotes for equipment
 - iii. City is actively looking to purchase the radio tower property and the end result would be more fields if they are able to do that
 - iv. Lighting: the Sports Plex would only be a day use area due to the area previously being a landfill
 1. Can't dig into the ground to insert lighting, they do have portable lighting they can bring in
5. Eric asked a question about the Sports Plex and scheduling fields
 - a. Currently: put in an application in with the City like you would for rental for any kind of event
 - b. Brian is lobbying for a more modern solution
 - c. One option we've looked at is a Google Calendar:
 - i. Chris Mourlas suggested that we look at our role in encouraging people in the community to be active and if we organize events we can show the city what is needed

- ii. Maybe the Google document lives on the City's website
- iii. Question was asked why the City was opposed to this?
 - 1. Suggested that the Council may not realize what exactly we're asking for
 - 2. Suggested that it could be part of the responsibility of one of the Council liaison
 - a. Chris Mourlas brought up Mt. Airy and their process
 - b. John agreed it's nice to look at what other jurisdictions do
- 6. Chris Mourlas brought up the bridge to the memorial over the stream at City Park, he looked at cost effective ideas
 - a. Would be nice to have a trail that leads to the bridge and the memorial, instead of people having to walk along the road to reach the bridge
- 7. Chris Messick brought up a need for an actual marked crosswalk across Brunswick St between West End Park and Est End Trail
 - a. John D. stated he will look at the cost of repainting
 - b. A discussion also ensued regarding speed bumps, John mentioned that due to many reasons the speed limit flashing signs are just as effective as speed bumps and the City does plan to purchase 4 annually, as of now they are rotated throughout the City
- 8. Carlo brought up the Brunswick Pool
 - a. Seating is too limited, Pool loses customers due to lack of seating
 - b. Requested that the committee can take a look soon
 - c. Vaugh mentioned that the City purchased a lot of inventory of seating and other things, last year we didn't get a good chance to see if adequate because last year there were restrictions due to COVID
 - d. What happens when we grow too large for current capacity?
 - i. Looking to cover the pool as one option for year-long use
 - ii. If we wanted to expand it, may have to totally re-do it
 - iii. BHS swim team has to travel to middle town to practice, if we opened a new indoor or covered pool, we could rent it out

Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.